

## Remarks for the

### **"Response to Final Office Action dated 12/21/2006"**

[0002] Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of all of the claims of the application. Claims 1-15 are presently pending. Claims 1, 5-8, 11, and 12 are amended herein; no claims are withdrawn or cancelled herein; and no new claims are added herein.

#### **Summary of Interview**

[0003] Examiner Do graciously talked with me—the undersigned agent for the Applicant—on Feb 20, 2007. Applicant greatly appreciates the Examiners' willingness to talk. Such willingness is invaluable to both of us in our common goal of an expedited prosecution of this patent application.

[0004] Differences between the application and the cited references, and possible claim amendments were discussed. In particular, the Examiner suggested amending the claims to clearly indicate that the hash value being generated represents the entire image.

#### **Formal Request for an Interview**

[0005] If the Office's reply to this communication is anything other than allowance of all pending claims, then Applicant formally requests an interview with the Examiner of this patent application. I encourage the Examiner to contact me—the undersigned agent for the Applicant—to

schedule a date and time for a telephone interview that is most convenient for both of us. You will find contact information for me and for my assistant on the last page of this response.

### **Claim Amendments**

**[0006]** Applicant amends claims in accordance with the above-referenced telephone interview with the Examiner.. Such amendments are made to expedite prosecution and quickly identify allowable subject matter.

## **Substantive Claim Rejections**

### **Claim Rejections under § 101**

**[0007]** Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S. C. 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter.

**[0008]** On the bottom of page 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner suggests a direct recitation of a practical application in the technological arts. Independent claims 1, 5, 6, and 7 have each been amended to include such a direct recitation of a practical application. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the 101 rejection of claims 1-7 be withdrawn.

**[0009]** Claims 12-15 are rejected under 35 U.S. C. 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter.

**[0010]** Independent claim 12 has been amended to include a direct recitation of a practical application in the technological arts. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the 101 rejection of claims 12-15 be withdrawn.

**Claim Rejections under § 102**

**[0011]** Claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,689,639 issued to Schwarz (herein referred to as "Schwarz").

**[0012]** Independent claims 1, 6, 8, and 12 are amended herein, as shown above, rendering the 102 rejection of claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, and 15 moot. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the 102 rejection of claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, and 15 be withdrawn.

**Claim Rejections under § 103**

**[0013]** Claims 5, 7, 9, 11, and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schwarz in view of "RIME: A Plicated Image Detector for the World-Wide Web" by Chang et al (herein referred to as "Chang").

**[0014]** Independent claims 5, 7, and 11 are amended herein, as shown above, rendering the 103 rejection of claims 5, 7, and 11 moot.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the 103 rejection of claims 5, 7, and 11 be withdrawn.

**[0015]** Claims 3 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schwarz in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,465,353 issued to Hull et al (herein referred to as "Hull").

**[0016]** Hull is not seen to add to the teaching of Schwarz with respect to claims 1 and 12. Accordingly, claims 3 and 13 are allowable at least by virtue of their respective dependence on claims 1 and 12. Applicant respectfully requests that the 103 rejection of claims 3 and 13 be withdrawn.

#### **Dependent Claims**

**[0017]** In addition to its own merits, each dependent claim is allowable for the same reasons that its base claim is allowable. Applicant respectfully requests that the Office withdraw the rejection of each dependent claim where its base claim is allowable.

## **Conclusion**

**[0018]** All pending claims are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and prompt issuance of the application. If any issues remain that prevent issuance of this application, the Office is urged to contact the undersigned agent before issuing a subsequent Action.

Respectfully Submitted,

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